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THE COLLEGE VOICE

NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT

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WEDNESDAY, November 12, 2008

“Change Has Come To America”

History is made as Barack Obama is elected 44th President of the United States

Students' Views on the Presidential Election

LAUREN MORROW '09

news editor

November 4, 2008 will live on as one of the most monumental days in the history of most people in this nation. For many of the students at Connecticut College, it was their first chance to vote in a presidential election, and most at this LIBERAL arts

SEE RESPONSES

continued on page three

A Professor's View on the Presidential Election

SARAH KOSOSFSKY '12

staff writer

It is now almost a week after the announcement of the results of the presidential election. We all stayed up late to watch the results, and some of us partied on Tempel Green. At this point, most of us are glad that the election and all of its hype are done

SEE RESPONSES

continued on page three

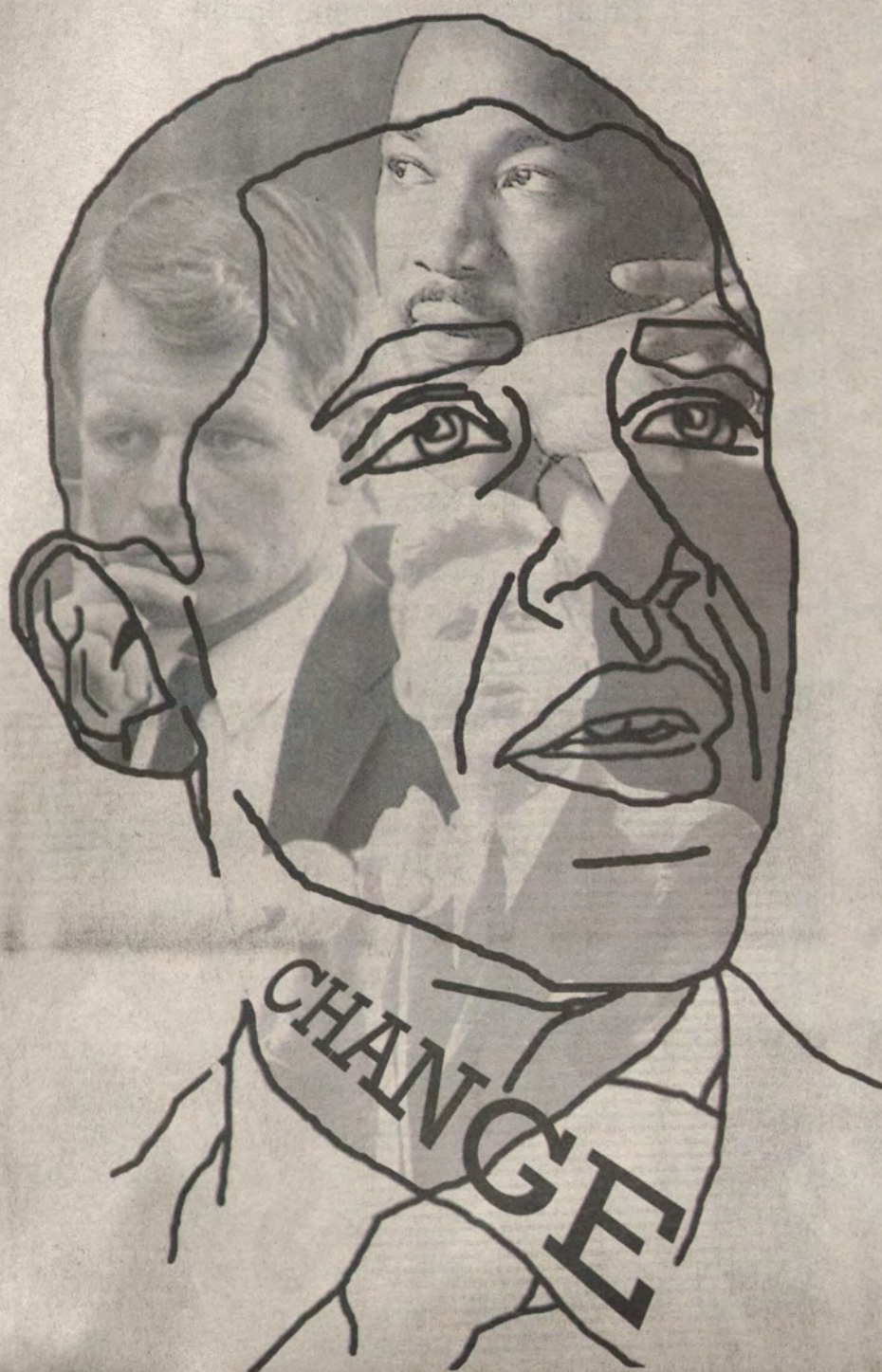


Image courtesy of Madeleine Ignon.

“more than ordinary”



Dance Dance Revolution Courtney Blanch, Emily Evans, Morgan Griffin, and Ellie Whiteford appeared in Kim Lusk's Schrodinger Would Know this past weekend. The show, “more than ordinary”, which premiered Thursday, November 6, featured seventeen completely student-run and produced dance pieces. Photo courtesy of Nick Edwards.

NEWS



Find out about Conn's endowment oversight on page 3

ENTERTAINMENT



Dev's on Bank Street. Continental Cuisine or Tapas Bar? Find out on Page 9.

SPORTS



How did Volleyball fare in its first playoff game? See on Page 12

OPINION



Are Club Hockey games are best show of school spirit? Find out on page 6.

EDITORIALS

November 12, 2008

CONTRIBUTE: e-mail ccvoice@conncoll.edu

Letter From The Editor

Change, change, change. It was all we heard before the election, and it is all we hear now as we begin to assess whether our collective on President-elect Barack Obama blinded us from how much will actually change one he is all moved into 1600 Pennsylvania Ave.

Early reports show that that change might not be coming as fast as we had all predicted. Obama and his newly plucked transition team have vowed to address the economic situation first, but with the treasury draining and a possible new war on the horizon, many of President-elect Obama's campaign promises may have to be shelved for some time. The best example of this: Obama's request that we judge his first 1,000 not 100 days.

Obama's team might bring much of a change to Washington either. Rahm Emanuel, Obama's choice for White House Chief of Staff, was also President Clinton's top adviser. Other names that have been thrown around like John D. Podesta and Anthony Lake also have deep ties to the former Democratic dynasty.

And that new democratic spirit? The droves of newly registered voters that were supposed to cast their ballot for Obama? Well, that didn't really happen either. A report by Po-

litico.com estimates that 60.7 to 61.7 percent of the 208.3 million eligible voters cast ballots in the election this year. In 2004, 60.6 percent of eligible voters voted.

Whether or not the change manifests itself in the current administrative choices or in the poll numbers, it is undeniable the world around us is changing. Videos from Tokyo to Rio show ecstatic citizens screaming Obama's name. While screaming the name of the US president is nothing new to angered citizens around the world, this time, the tone has changed.

Obama faces a tough challenge: Things are far from good. The auto-industry is on the verge of collapse, and even though they are producing outdated gas-guzzlers, the United States must bail them out if they don't want to plunge the country into a much deeper recession. The U.S. Jobless rate hit a 14-year high.

And, of course, the cost of tuition is still on the rise. With all this change in mind, the Voice staff would like to thank everyone who makes sure we can stay in school. On behalf of every student who attends Connecticut College, thank you.

-Ben



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Connecticut College Takes Fifth Place In List Of Most Expensive Colleges

EMILY ZUBKOFF '12

staff writer

It may come as no surprise to some that Connecticut College is among the most expensive colleges in the country. But it may be shocking to hear that Conn was ranked the fifth most expensive college of 2008-2009, according to a list compiled by campusgrotto.com. Sarah Lawrence was ranked number one with tuition of \$53,166, followed by George Washington University at \$50,312, New York University at \$50,182 and

"There are numerous possible causes for higher costs, such as the weak economy or a deficient amount of donations from alumni, but for Connecticut College, the reasons are not clearly specified. This inevitably leads one to inquire where all of the tuition money goes."

Georgetown University at \$49,689.

Inflation can be accounted as one of the reasons for the annual increases in tuition, but it is not the most substantial. There are many possible causes for higher costs, such as the weak economy, or a deficient amount of donations from alumni, but for Connecticut College, the reasons are not clearly specified. This inevitably leads one to inquire where all of the tuition money goes. Nevertheless, all matriculating students at Connecticut College are essentially on financial aid since the \$49,385 tuition cost only covers around eighty percent of the total cost to attend Conn for a year.

The demand for higher education will always exist, and therefore colleges can raise the tuition and expect no difference in number of applicants. The tremendous fiscal growth spurs many long-term problems for students whose parents cannot afford to pay the tuition without financial aid, and inevitably student loans come into play. Recently, there have been more reported adults who graduated from their alma mater more than five years prior and still are paying off student loans. Should an institution meant to help prepare students for the workforce inhibit them with debt?

In addition, it is interesting to note that the tuition of some of the most expensive undergraduate colleges, including Conn, is more than the average income of an American.

However, having the ranking of a "most expensive school" is not definitively negative or positive. Connecticut College boasts an impressive number of study abroad programs, funded internships, and interdisciplinary programs. Conn spends a considerable amount of money on components necessary for the school and the benefit of its students.

I Got A Crush On Obama



Students celebrate an Obama victory with jubilant cheers on Tempel Green. Not pictured depressed McCain fans. Photo courtesy of the Voice Photo Staff.

Responses

Students' Views

continued from page one

college got to revel in the results.

"It's about time," says senior, Shana Chock-Goldman of Obama's victory. "It's good to see people taking ownership of their morals, values and ideals."

Once the announcement was made that Barack Obama would become the 44th president of the United States of America, champagne tops all around campus were flying. Students ran outside to see flocks of their classmates, cheering and singing the national anthem (I know, right?). It was a time of celebration and unity for the majority of Conn students and people around the world.

"It was one of those genuine, rare times when you see peoples' true emotions," says sophomore Kiefer Roberts. "It proved that our generation is not just all talk. It was so beautiful to see everyone from all backgrounds come together in a pro-nationalist way."

Many students also see the election as an opportunity to change the image of America.

"I'm really excited to go abroad," says sophomore Jenny Weinstein. "I don't have to be embarrassed to be an American."

For the next four years, America will have a new face. Sam Cooke once said "A Change is Gonna Come." It looks like that time is now.

Professor's Views

continued from page one

with.

But what happens now? We only have a little more than two months before Obama's inauguration, but what will the 44th presidency bring? I asked Professor Dorothy James of the Government department here at Connecticut College what she thought would happen to America's foreign policy when Obama moves into the oval office.

Professor James believes that the Bush presidency's foreign policy stressed unilateralism, using its power to achieve its neo-conservative goals, such as spreading democracy in the Middle East.

"It is hard to imagine a President Obama looking into any other world leader's eyes and 'seeing his soul' as President Bush did with Putin," Professor James says. She also believes that Obama will use his controlled "cool" type of personality to "build consensus to solutions on shared problems." Professor James summed up her predictions: "Overall, his [Obama's] approach to the world will be more realistic, less ego-involved, more consensual, and ultimately more successful in protecting US interests than the approach of the Bush administration."

It will be interesting to see how quickly Obama reaches out to other countries. We saw, in Obama's campaign, that he made stops in Europe where he was very popular. Perhaps in the near future, the United States will have a closer relationship with Europe and the European Union.

This January will definitely be an interesting one.



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Well-Endowed

The Voice takes a close look at the Endowment and its investment priorities

BEN EAGLE '09

editor-in-chief

As the students eagerly await the results of the environmental baseline audit, they are left to consider the only current environmental assessment of the Connecticut College campus: the Green Report Card. While the Voice has had qualms with some of the Green Report Card's research methods, some of their assessments have been hard to argue with: namely, Connecticut College's F in Endowment Transparency. In an attempt to create some transparency, the Voice decided to research the endowment, with a focus on its investment priorities as well as their future goals.

According to Paul Maroni, the Vice President for Finance, the endowment was valued around \$215.5 million in June 2008. Due to the decline of equity in September and October of this year, Mr. Maroni now estimates that the endowment is hovering below \$200 million. Luckily, the college's practice of withdrawing a fixed amount each year assures endowment stability. "Capital markets are volatile," Maroni said, "drawing a fixed amount can protect the endowment against wild gyrations."

An investment committee, which is a sub-committee of the board of trustees, manages all of Connecticut College's endowment. The committee is comprised of five individual financial experts. It includes a former trustee who is an investment manager at Morgan Stanley, a chief investment officer from a Midwest school with an endowment of over \$1 billion, an alternative assets hedge fund manager, the chair of Connecticut College's finance committee, and a retired chief executive officer who is a former trustee.

Like many NESCAC schools, Connecticut College does not directly handle any of its assets. It has no securities in its names, and all of their holdings are managed by the Cambridge Associates, who according to Mr. Maroni, "advise more colleges than anyone else." These co-mingled funds, which are essentially limited partnerships with other investors, preclude the college from dictating how the endowment is spent.

According to President Higdon, a limited say in how the endowment is spent should not worry the students. "The endowment is managed for long-term growth by finance professionals with extensive experience in the capital markets," Higdon said in an e-mail. "Investment decisions are made by these experienced professionals in adherence with the principle of maximizing returns with a given risk tolerance."

While the college aims to maximize profits, students accused the administration of doing so at the expense of ethical investments in late 2006. Various groups including the student-run STAND (Students Taking Action Against Darfur Now) and the faculty-led Committee on Institutional Ethics decried the college's indirect holdings in companies that did business in Sudan. While these holdings made up only less than four-tenths of one percent of the college's then \$189 million endowment, these groups called for divestment.

And divestment did have precedence. In 1990, the College made the decision to divest from companies that supported the apartheid regime in South Africa. Unlike 2006, in 1990, the college held direct investments, of which it could dictate the terms.

While the college did not have any

direct holdings, President Higdon was nevertheless floored by the atrocities occurring in Darfur. "The situation in Darfur [was] horrendous," the President said. "I had followed news of that region and had spoken with many constituents on campus—including students and faculty—about how Connecticut College could help."

On December 21, President Higdon took action. He sent a letter on behalf of the college's Board of Trustees urging fund managers to investigate companies who were doing business in the Sudan. In this letter, Higdon urged the fund managers to divest from those whose business directly or indirectly supported the genocide. "It is morally imperative that the community of institutional investors take every possible action to support the people of Sudan and to bring this tragic situation to a speedy and peaceful resolution," the letter concluded.

While conversation amongst students concerning the endowment and its investments slowed down after the Darfur incident, faculty members continued to ruminate on the subject. Between 2006 and 2007 the Faculty Steering and Conference Committee (FSCC) created an ad-hoc committee on institutional ethics.

The ad-hoc committee, which consisted of Government professor Jane Dawson, Gender and Women's Studies professor Mab Segrest, and English professor Simon Hay, decided to focus their efforts on socially responsible investing (SRI). This committee eventually disbanded, and a new committee appeared in 2007. This new committee sought to establish a permanent SRI advisory committee consisting of students, faculty, and top administrators.

They ran into a problem defining SRI however. "Everybody has their own principles and ethics," Professor Dawson said. To avoid this, the group aligned themselves with the Connecticut College Mission Statement. In regards to the environment, the Mission Statement reads: "[Connecticut College] aims to preserve and protect the environment, both locally and globally..." While this may seem vague, Professor Dawson was able to sum it up more succinctly. "It's about the triple bottom line: environmental, social, and fiscal."

Originally, the administration was worried about the fiduciary ramifications of SRI. "President Higdon was cautiously behind [the committee] in 2006," Professor Dawson said. Whether it was the financial meltdown or the recent fiscal feasibility of green business, by 2008, Professor Dawson assured that President Higdon was "fully behind the initiative".

Though the college's lack of holdings in its own name limits the power of an SRI committee, Professor Dawson is still hopeful. She outlined how the committee hopes to "advise" the Board of Trustees on the sustainable screening options that many funds are now offering. She also emphasized how important students were to the committee. "Students can come up with great ideas," Professor Dawson said. "They have things they really care about."

With how fast this field is changing, Professor Dawson knows one of their biggest responsibilities will be keeping up. "We'll look at the evolving options, and try and stay on top of what's going on in the field," she said. One way she hopes to do this is with Socrates, a database that looks at the sustainable

SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE



CC Curtis (pictured) discusses the results of the "Community Conversation on Alcohol" during the Common Hour last Friday. The Common Hour, which was entitled, "Community Conversation Part II: Alcohol, Honor Code and Self-Governance", was not as well attended as the first community conversation. Those students in attendance, however, were able to discuss the alcohol problem with top administrators.

Photo courtesy of Allie Weiss.

Explore Weekend

JAZMINE HUGHES '12

staff writer

Over the past weekend, Conn was flooded with a large group of unrecognized students—they were in the bookstore, they were in Harris, they were awkwardly hanging around doors of the dorms waiting for someone to let them in. They were prospective students, or "prospies." November 8-10 was Explore Weekend, a program run by ALANA coordinators Khana Riley '09, Ivan Tatis '10 and Aidyn Urena '10, meant to encourage students of diverse backgrounds, and those interested in diversity issues, to spend a weekend at Connecticut College before the admissions process begins. The high school students are paired with a host, a Conn student, who receives anywhere from one to four students. Essentially, the hosts serve as mini-tour guides, student advisors, and admissions officers; fielding the prospies' questions, taking them to various sites on campus, and assuring them that Connecticut College is the place to be. This year, prospective students came from all around the globe: from as far away as Puerto Rico, and as close as North Haven. Connecticut College is on a mission to diversify the campus in all ways, thus by bringing students from as many locations as possible, they hope to garner a more diverse student body.

Although some may find it irritat-

ing to host a high school student for an entire weekend, the entire experience was also extremely rewarding for many. The prospective students have a healthy interest in Conn, and in convincing them to consider applying to the College, current students may begin to reevaluate and reconsider all the things that make Conn great, and why they personally decided to

"Although it may seem irritating to host a high school student [or four!] for an entire weekend --- attempting not to trip over the sleeping bodies on your floor, waking up at 9 AM on a Sunday morning to take them to an interview, turning down that 'let's go back to my room' invitation you've been waiting for all year—the entire experience was rewarding."

attend the school. Many hosts had a lot of fun, not only with their prospies, but also with other students who were more than willing to show them around over the duration of the weekend.

As many hosts and prospies alike said, Explore Weekend is a great program for prospective students, as well as students at Conn.

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continued on page five



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WEEK OF OCTOBER 27-NOVEMBER 2, 2008

Wednesday		Total: 8 Alcohol Related Incidents 3 Drug Related Incidents 2 Hospital Transports 2 CDUC 1 Academic Integrity Incident
2:40p	Room Host	
2:40p	Drug P/U (3)	
2:40p	Smoking (3)	
Thursday		J-Board saw eight students this week. Of the eight, three were found responsible for at least one violation. Additionally, the adjudication teams saw four students this week. Of the four, all were found responsible for at least on violation.
10:52p	Underage P/U (3)	
11:14p	Room Host	
11:14p	Underage P/U	
11:14p	Compliance	KEY CDUC: Creating Dangerous and/or Unhealthy Conditions P/U: Possession and/or Use PNG: Persona non grata: an individual is no longer allowed to return to Conn College. DUI: Driving under the influence
11:14p	Personal Representation	
11:40p	CDUC	
11:40	Compliance	
Friday		
1:12a	Hospital Transport	
2:20a	Room Host	
2:20a	Underage P/U (2)	
2:53a	Underage P/U	
2:53a	Open Container	
2:53a	Property	
9:16p	Hospital Transport	
Sunday		
9:36p	CDUC	

Weekly Sudoku

	7		4			1		
					8	7		
2		3				8		
5			7	9				
6								8
				3	4			5
		6				9		4
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		4			5		1	

Daily Sudoku: Sun 9-Nov-2008

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Socially Responsible Oversight

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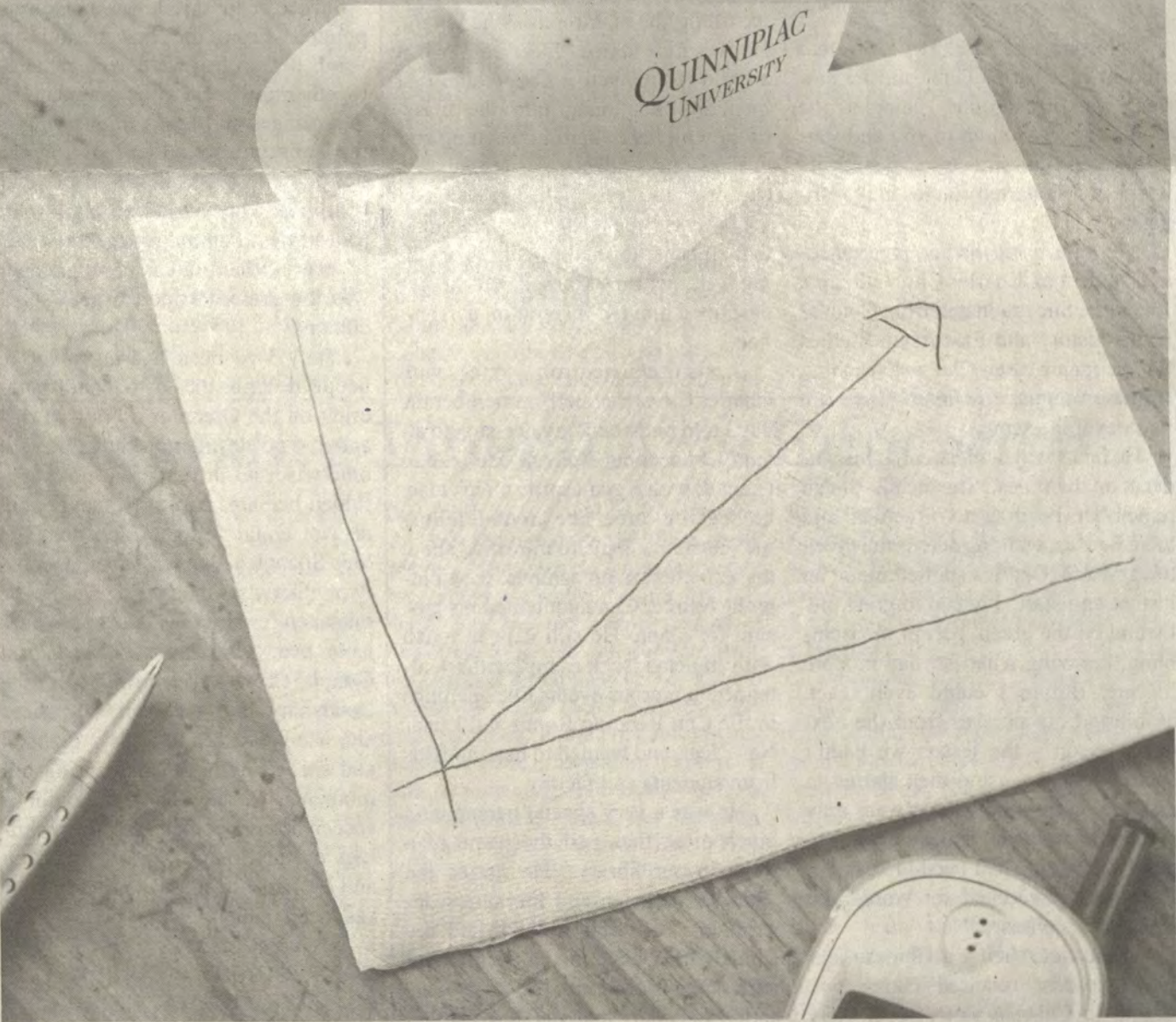
business practices of US companies. “We’re not behind,” she said in regards to Connecticut College’s progress as a sustainable institution. “We’re just not leading the way. If we get [this] going, we’ll be on track.” The committee hopes to have a concrete proposal before the Holidays, and hopes to have the vote to make it a permanent committee pass before the FSCC sometime this spring.

Snow Patrol

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love and rather reminisces of the past and those people who have entered into one’s life and the effect they have had. The final and longest song (a little over 16 minutes!) on this album, “The Lightning Strike” has the most versatile type of sound within the song. It opens with a strong, daunting, and dark sound describing the instance in which the band got stuck within a lightning storm, and the power of nature which they experienced. It then switches into a piano interlude; similar to one found within a Sufjan Stevens song and then transitions back into a rock vibe. The end of the song provides some resolution to the storm, “Broken pieces fit together to make a perfect picture”, describing the rollercoaster of events that the band has experienced thus far, yet still have managed to come together and successfully create music. Overall this album displays the band’s ambition to continue to broaden and diversify their image. Although some songs still encompass their distinct, signature sound, *A Hundred Million Suns*, proves to be a success for Snow Patrol and is well worth the listen. Also, nature is an ever-present theme in Moore’s lyrics reminding one of his “bluegrass state” background. Though it was recorded in Los Angeles, the combination of soft sounds and lyrics make the album a product of Moore’s natural hometown setting and a great new folk album.

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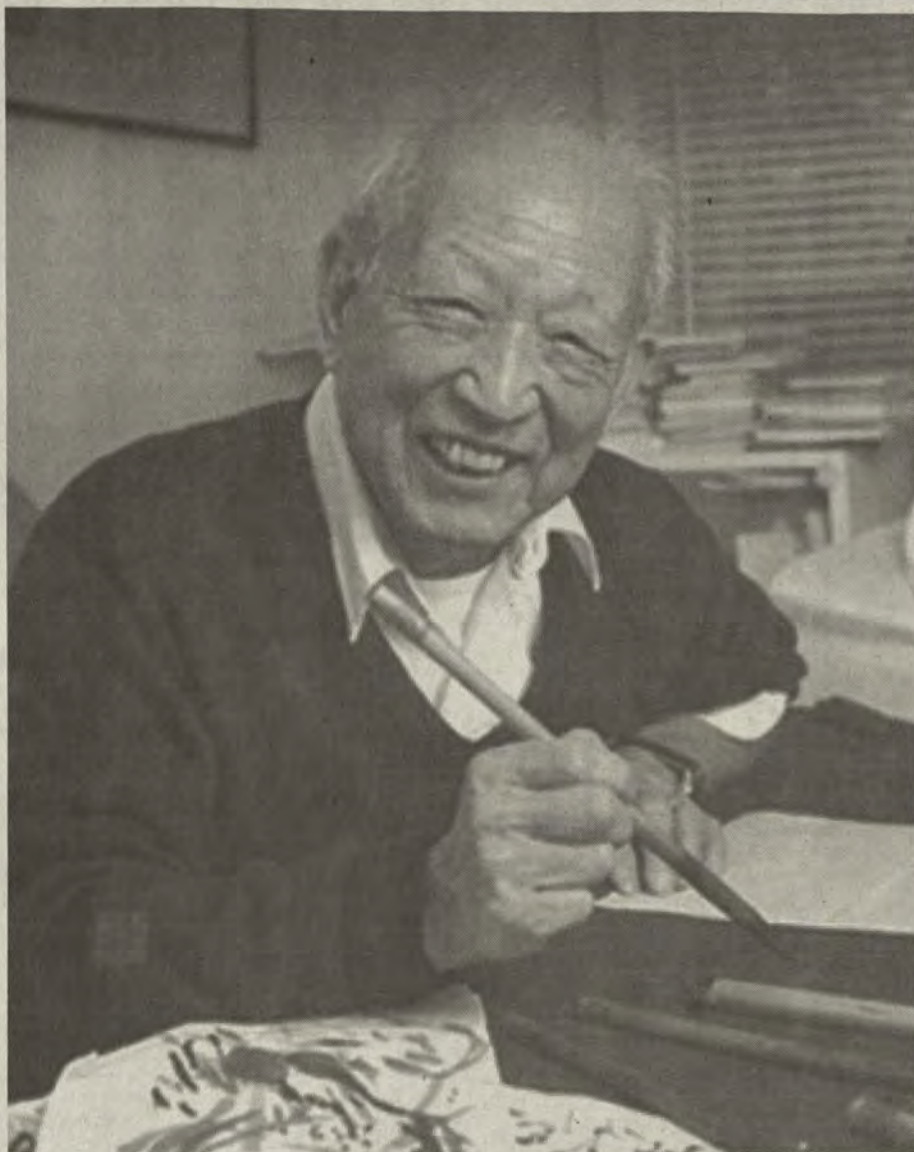
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OPINIONS

November 12, 2008 | Opinions Editor: Lilah Raptopoulos



Charles Chu: “Inspiration Personified”

CLAIRE GOULD '10

managing editor

“No one was safe! If you were a student of Charles Chu, and he saw you walking around campus, he would eagerly run up to you and start to speak in Chinese – even to students who had just started classes in the language.”

My mother recalls her experiences as a student of Charles Chu with great fondness. She graduated from Conn as an art history and East Asian Studies double major when Chu was teaching Chinese language courses – her life was never the same.

He had a way with keeping his students on their toes. She recalls, “I can remember heading to Freeman and there he was, walking across the green towards me. Charles spotted me in an instant and started to run to greet me. I stood on the green, part of me trembling, knowing what fate lay in store for me. Before I could even react, he blurted out phrases from the next day’s lesson – the lesson we hadn’t been taught yet – and then started to drill me on the idioms that were only mentioned in the morning’s class. My mind was racing as I tried to keep up. I frantically searched for words and repeated his phrases.”

At the time, being a Chinese language student required taking two classes in Chinese almost every day – one in the morning, and one in the afternoon. The purpose was to have students take classes with two professors, each with a different accent, in order to better hear and understand tones. Students were also given the

opportunity to experience different teaching styles. My mother remembers Chu’s enthusiasm and generosity filling the classroom as he taught. He was nicknamed “little frog” when a child for his active nature, and that mentality continued into the classroom with his delight in teaching and pushing his students to succeed. His expectations were high, but he made the process of learning so exhilarating that students thrived off of his teaching style and truly learned. My mother described him as “inspiration personified.”

I also enjoyed my times with Charles Chu. I distinctly remember the day I told him about my decision to attend Connecticut College. He was so excited; with a giant smile on his face, he began to order me around, telling me I need to keep him informed about my experiences on campus. Even after he retired, Chu maintained his passion for Conn. He still kept in touch with students (such as my mother), attended numerous events like openings in the Chu Reading Room and Lunar New Year, and wanted to hear updates from students and faculty.

He was a very special person, and much more than just the name of a room in our library. He started the Chinese language and literatures department, collected and donated the Chu-Griffis Collection, and embodied what Conn is all about: the close interaction between students and faculty. This bond lasts a lifetime.

Bottled Spirits



JACQUES SWARTZ '09

columnist

Last Saturday night, I trekked down to the AC to watch Conn’s most notorious sporting event, the annual Club Hockey game versus Coast Guard. I’d been hearing about this game since my first year here, about how the Coasties are the closest thing we have to rivals, how everyone pregames aggressively and keeps the sauce stocked in the stands – generally, how much fun there was to be had.

Suffice it to say, I was not disappointed. From the first period onwards it was clear we’d been gathered together to witness a slaughter, and so like princes and kings ministering to the Coliseum, we all let loose. Penalties piled up, pucks flew to the crowd, beer cans were hurled at unfortunate trajectories. Estimating conservatively, every other student in attendance was too drunk to operate heavy machinery.

Lately I’ve been hearing a lot of people describe the post-election gathering on the Green as a “riot”. I disagree – no destruction, attempted or otherwise, no protestation, no angst-ridden bedlam. A “mob”, maybe, but no riot could form up and do “The Star-Spangled Banner”, spontaneously or otherwise. If anything were to be mistaken for a riot last week, it would have been this game versus Coast Guard. Crowds overflowed from the stands out into the walkway; faces and hands pressed to a glass grabbed and shaken by both sides during lull moments. Inside Dayton, outdoor soccer horns boomed like fog warnings on the Sound. Vitriol welled up and let loose in mushroom clouds of cadenced taunts:

“NA.VY.REJECTS ; F-CK.THE.COAST.GUARD ; YOU’RE ALL.SO-BER ; WE.HAVE.GIR-RLS—YOURS.DON’T.COW-OUNT.”

Here, my friends, was some spirit. Can I tell you that it was amazing? There we were, nearly grown adults, thoughtful, honor-bound denizens of the modern, globalized society, wailing like mad at the miserable and

muscled servicemen from across the street. And I loved every minute of it. I screamed until hoarse, pointed at the goalie, pointed at the scoreboard, waited with heady anticipation for the

“What the CG game was all about, and what so many find so hard to swallow, was that a lot of our school spirit is derived from having an unreasonably good time. From being loud, making a mess, and loving every minute of it.”

cracked plastic sounds of padding hitting padding and 200lb+ skaters hitting the ice. On the opposite end of the stands the Coasties were an ocean of navy and khaki, crew cuts and buzz cuts, stirring and stewing as we gleefully confirmed every last one of their worst notions about fair CC.

And why? Because it was fun. Because it was a basic structure at work, a meaningless game of Us versus Them, solid enough to grab hold of ride atop. Fliers, posters, spirit leaders, camel cookies and live mascots fall flat in the face of it. Alarmists and cynics might argue that we’re cursed by our own spite, unable to come together except in vilification of an Other. I say that at the very least that misses the point, at the most puts far too much stock in our cheers. There’s not a Camel among us who wouldn’t drive a Coastie up from the train station if he asked us, and I’m pretty sure your average officer looking at predawn drills was as upset about being sober as we were about being drunk. But getting swept up in the fury is what the game was all about, and unity among fans is as natural a phenomenon as they come. Because we weren’t down on the ice, gliding toward collision, our assault had to be a verbal one.

And why must it tear them down, rather than build us up? Because “Go

SEE BOTTLED SPIRITS

continued on page eight

Dude, Where’s My Race?

W. K. MOTA '10

contributor

Have you heard the good news? Racism is over. We are all equal. America is finally the meritocracy that it has for so long claimed to be. We have reached King’s Mountaintop. The divide is over! Fox News producers and Rush Limbaugh will soon be out of business, and finally people will cease to purchase Ann Coulter’s

books.

In fact, I heard that Black people aren’t even Black anymore. Since Obama was elected, we’ve all gotten a shade lighter. America has put on its race-goggles and we’re lovin’ it.

And get this: New statistics released yesterday by Yale University confirm that there’s been a 70 percent increase in the number of white men who now feel more inclined to date a Black woman.

Now, now. White women have

no need to fret. Statistics also show a 10 percent increase in the number of Black men that now desire to date white women, equaling a grand total of 100 percent.

And of course, Oprah’s ratings are said to quadruple. Even Black people will now watch her show. In fact, Oprah will have so much power that she, not Obama, will be The REAL President of The United States of America.

Sadly, there is bad news in this

glory pie. All social activists will be put out of business. I’m sorry Cornell West, but race does not matter. You better start looking for another job.

Finally, Black people will stop making race such a big deal. Businesses and schools can finally stop accepting unqualified people of color, and do away with affirmative action.

But the best news may perhaps be that every child of color will be guaranteed a swimming pool and a pony.

Equality and Equity are back!

Even Cynics Get Goosebumps

The True Change We Can Believe In

MIRIAM WASSER '09

columnist

The United States is characteristically a forward-looking country, and we are notorious for our sanguinity and our pursuit of the American dream. But the past eight years have really challenged that sense of eternal optimism for many Americans, and I would argue that it has been especially challenging for us youth.

In reality, most of our political consciousness took place during the presidency of George W. Bush, and perhaps for some, in the last years of the Clinton administration. Most of what we know is a reality of being embroiled in wars and international hostility toward our country. In addition, while witnessing our country's growing economic challenges and the increasingly unequal distribution of wealth, it is really hard to feel positive and it becomes difficult to imagine that there could really be an alternative.

The "youth" are always thought of as being idealists, though at times it seems we have more momentum in that direction, as in the 1960s and early '70s. We are reminded by older generations that our dreams for a better future are "wonderful;" though we are hardly told they are "inspiring," as if to say that we will soon grow out of it, or that the real world will sharpen our sense of reality. We usually do not have the strongest voices, nor do we have the means to demand our voices be heard.

The constant erosion of environmental laws, rhetoric about human rights, diplomatic efforts, and pushes for greater social equality have taken a toll on many of us in this country. And it becomes a tricky situation, because our cynicism leads us to believe that political participation will not change anything, and so we abstain from politics, which only contributes to the infeasibility of political change. My own sense of optimism was truly on the line during this election, and I think in general, American optimism was set to triumph or dissipate into a deep despair depending on Tuesday's election results. Throughout the election season, I worked hard not



The excitement sparked by Barack Obama's Tuesday night win, even on our own campus, is change enough (Photo courtesy of Voice Photo Staff).

to get my hopes up; I tried to come to terms with the reality of the Bush administration, convinced that McCain would have a proclivity toward the *status quo*. The tendentious opinion pieces citing political polls did little to shake my decided views of the future, and I woke up Tuesday morning prepared for what I *knew* would transpire. I am glad that I was wrong.

Tuesday morning, in my American Political Thought class, we talked about how a president does not really make societal changes, nor convince the American people to change their paradigms. Rather, the elected president represents the willingness (or lack thereof) within the people for change. What this means is that Barack Obama's win is less about what alterations he might make in Washington, and far more about the population's desires for the future. I see this as good news. It means that at the least, a substantial portion of the country is so enraged by the current political environment that they are willing to vote for change. And change does not come easily in this country, as our government is structured to prevent swift or radical transformations, and tradition or provincialism bars many from demanding it.

So what is most exciting for me about Tuesday's election has very little to do with Obama himself; what is exciting is the obvious change in the people,

whose demand for a different type of politics was reflected in the polls. He is the new symbol of a shifting worldview. Obama didn't win because he altered people's goals and priorities; I think he won because people were fed up and finally ready for a political figure who could reignite their optimism and reflect their new priorities and desires. The pent up discontent with the current administration, and what has happened in our country over the past decade, was ready to explode. (Even John McCain adopted the slogan of "change" when he realized it was what people across America wanted.) Obama's words of inspiration became a place to channel a growing momentum for change, and the spontaneous midnight parties and rallies all across the country reflected our decision as citizens to do something about it.

I think it is great that Obama has politicized and inspired so many people in our generation, and I hope that despite all of the problems and barriers he will face in his term, the majority of people can maintain hope and passion, and not become discouraged or feel let down—I promise to work on my inner cynic if you promise to work on yours.... Something shifted within the American people because we voted in an agent of change. People all over the country worked together to get him elected, and people all over the country celebrated together in

the streets, hugging strangers and bridging divides. But this is not some happy ending; this is not a "hooray we got him into the White House, now I can go back to my regular life" type of moment. No, the change people apparently want will only be as strong as the sustained political movement for it. What we need to remember is that Obama is one man, and he represents one administration with limited capabilities and intense outside pressures. If we care about community and society, if we care about the welfare of everyone, if we care about the world and the environment, then Obama's victory alone is not enough. It is not just revamped policies that we need; it is a concomitant unrelenting desire and applied pressure for them, especially in all of the uphill battles this country now faces.

In the speech he gave Tuesday night, Obama said "it's been a long time coming, but tonight, because of what we did on this date in this election at this defining moment, change has come to America.... It's the answer that led those who've been told for so long by so many to be cynical and fearful and doubtful about what we can achieve to put their hands on the arc of history and bend it once more toward the hope of a better day." Listening to those words, I battled my inner cynic who wanted to shout, "Good luck standing up to bureaucracies and big lobbyists." I couldn't help but think about the obstacles he, and this country, are about to face. But glancing down at my arms, I realized that I had goose bumps—I was moved by the crowd of people I saw standing before Obama. So I told myself to stop thinking cynically, to take a night off from it, and enjoy the triumph of optimism with the millions of other Americans celebrating across the country, and the millions of people celebrating across the world.

Toward An Integrative Liberal Arts Education

DANIEL O'KEEFE '09

columnist

The teeming multitude of things, each returns home to its root; and returning to one's root is called stillness.

This is known as returning to one's density; and returning to one's density is known as constancy.

To know constancy is called "enlightenment."

—Laozi, from The Daodejing

The whirlwind of emotionality, the outpour of impassioned remarks, and the establishment of high expectations for the future undoubtedly characterize at least the vast majority of the American voter conscience in our post-Obama-victory cultural context. In the election's immediate aftereffects, it is charged feelings that we embody—a sense of triumph or defeat depending on one's ideological persuasion; yet the more chronic outcome will be an embodiment of a more intellectual, reflective state, in which we individually and collectively feel and contemplate a reconnection with the founding mission of the United States; a recognition of how, through the first-ever election of an African American President, in Laozi's words, we have returned "home to [our] root."

This urge to reconnect with our founding political vision and recognize the vibrancy of our *vox populi* should also awaken in postsecondary communities such as ours a reexamination of the connection between learning in the liberal arts setting and in democratic life: Is the pedagogical mission of such a setting adequate to foster democratic life in what may perhaps become dubbed a post-neoconservative civic climate? Or,

if the mission of a liberal arts education should essentially remain unchanged (as some would argue it has been since the flowering of the *studia humanitatis* in 15th-century Italy), must the execution of the mission be reexamined?

In arguing for the latter, I feel this new page in U.S. political leadership that we will be reading from January 20th forward requires at least an updated edition of how we carry out "liberal learning." During the Renaissance, the propensity to synthesize knowledge—the classical, the religious, and the scientific—somehow managed to retain

the disciplinary boundaries that separated the knowledge in the first place, despite the changing conception of what it meant to be educated. Even though some completely new fields have emerged since then (cultural studies, international relations, theoretical psychology, for example), the college and university (not to mention the elementary and middle and high school) have largely resisted any detachment from a subject or discipline-based curriculum. Our departmental structure, three-letter course title prefixes, and majors are all delineated by discipline or subject (sociology, English, mathematics, etc.).

While reconceptualizing the curriculum and choice of majors by theme ("aesthetics," or "planetary change," for example) would be as

outlandish as it would be irresponsible for the institution to do (how many premier businesses do you think would hire a graduate with a major in "human conflict"?), the fact remains: there is very little *integration* of learnings from the separate, discipline-specific courses a student takes each semester, each academic year. "There is very little integration of learnings from the separate, discipline-specific courses a student takes each semester, each academic year." USA, studying y to eventually go into z. An integrative liberal arts education would more readily cultivate a richer, more durable educational identity for our individual selves.

Unlike course offerings, the mind is clearly not arranged subject-by-subject with learning objectives in the humanities, social sciences, natural/life sciences, or arts. Neural networks "link one's present location to the larger space...it is the network, the connections among objectives, that is important. This is the kind of knowledge

that characterizes expertise" (National Research Council, 2000, p. 139, italics added). This kind of connectedness-of-mind should constitute the end result of a well-executed (integrated) liberal arts education.

According to J. A. Bean's article "Organizing the Middle School Curriculum," the kind of integration for which this narrative argues is not quite analogous to "interdisciplinarity," in which two or more individual subjects retain their identity but are combined to address a problem or issue that cannot be sufficiently addressed by one or the other. Team-taught courses instructed by faculty of two different departments, as well as independent studies drawing on two different fields, are current and worthy examples of this. These fixtures in the academic repertoire already positively influence the execution of a liberal arts education; but they do not allow the learner to adequately return to his or her "root," to again use Laozi's word; they only expand what knowledge is currently in existence.

A transdisciplinary, reflective experience that fosters an integrated, connectedness of mind, on the other hand, connects the *self* with the *content*. These educational experiences should take place more and more, as a growing number of Americans are *reconnecting* their political selves with the democratic process.

Clap Your Hands Say Finally!

The College Voice sits down with Clap Your Hands Say Yeah drummer Sean Greenhalgh



Remember that show? Drummer Sean Greenhalgh on far right (Left photo by Phil Fritzsche, right courtesy of Web).

LILAH RAPTOPULOS '11

opinions editor

I was first introduced to Clap Your Hands Say Yeah by a CD swap I did in a high school English class. The more I listened to their self-titled debut album, the more comfortable I got with lead singer Alec Ounsworth's unintelligible voice, the more addicting it became as homework album, car-ride album, and dance-party album of 2005. A month later, my sister told me her friend Sean from high school was "making it big with some hand clapping band, or something." Then they were reviewed as Pitchfork's Best New Music. Then they were on Conan O'Brien. All without signing their indie-rock soul to a record label, all from four years playing with MOBROC bands in the Connecticut College barn.

Conn College has been boasting its association with this band the way Wesleyan boasts its birth to MGMT, and Columbia to Vampire Weekend. The difference is, CYHSY publicizes itself as Brooklyn-based, and to our continual dismay, has kept its distance despite its growing fame. So the day Alumni relations signed a check big enough to coax the five members back to New London, to play a show worthy of the miniaturized Sydney Opera House set up on Temple Green, all we could ask each other is *What took so long?*

Sean Greenhalgh, Drummer of Clap

Your Hands, sat down for an interview with the Voice.

VOICE: Did CYHSY meet and form after Conn, or as students?

GREENHALGH: Lee, Tyler and I went to elementary school together. Alec and Lee were freshmen year roommates. I was in a band with Robbie called Robots In Disguise which played Go-Gos and Fine Young Cannibals covers at Florialia. Interestingly, Clap Your Hands started a couple years after we all graduated.

VOICE: What was your honest experience like at Conn? Where did you live, what were your favorite and least favorite aspects about the school?

GREENHALGH: I had both good times and bad at Conn. I lived in JA, Harkness, Burdick, and KB. My favorite thing about Conn was playing in bands in MOBROC. My least favorite was maybe that, back in the day, Conn could be a bit homogeneous at times.

VOICE: In retrospect?

GREENHALGH: In retrospect I wish I'd have studied a little harder, taken some more risks, gone abroad, and met more people.

VOICE: How did you take off without a label?

GREENHALGH: To make a long story short: we made what I think is a very good album and the right people took notice. These people were journalists, bloggers, and eventually industry people. The excitement surrounding the band allowed us to sign a relatively rare deal with a distribution company called ADA, which in turn allowed us to get CDs into stores

without being on a label proper. We also had help from two CC alums, Dave Godowsky and Nick Stern, who managed us and took over many of the tasks of a traditional label.

VOICE: Do you remember a turning point, when you went from an unknown band to "famous?"

GREENHALGH: I do remember a surreal moment walking around Brooklyn and hearing one of our songs blaring from a bar. I think I was pretty excited about that. Playing on Conan was also one of those for me.

VOICE: Is it weird to have your own Wikipedia page?

GREENHALGH: Yes.

VOICE: What took you so long to come play for us?

GREENHALGH: I think early on there was a desire within the band for us not to be associated with any particular institution. I think now that we're a bit more established, it seems to make more sense to come back.

VOICE: What was it like being back? Do you think Conn's changed at all?

GREENHALGH: I have to say, it was kind of disorienting being back on campus after all this time. Very, very little has changed since I graduated. It's sort of like stepping back in time. I found myself wondering where all my friends were. We were pleasantly surprised at the turnout for the show and the enthusiasm of the crowd. We really enjoyed it.

VOICE: Your fans have missed you in the past year. What are your future plans?

GREENHALGH: It's nice to be missed. Right now we're working on new material for a 3rd album. Depending on how things go, this album could potentially be out as early as the spring, but more likely a bit later than that. If and when that album comes out, I'm sure we'll be back on tour for a good stretch.

VOICE: Who writes your music? What's your process like? Does any of your music reflect your experiences in college?

GREENHALGH: Alec writes the songs and we flesh them out as a band. Generally we get in a room together, learn the chord changes and go from there. The process has changed from record to record, but the essence stays the same. You'd have to ask Alec if college played any role in his song writing. Not sure about that one. Certainly for me, MOBROC gave me the freedom to play lots of different styles of music, and lots of different instruments. The first time I ever played drums in a band was in the Barn. So, for whatever that's worth...

VOICE: What's your favorite city or venue to play in? What's the best sort of crowd to play for?

GREENHALGH: For whatever reason, Clap Your Hands goes over really well in Dublin. We've had a couple of crowds there that have been on the verge of hysterics. Tokyo is definitely another favorite of mine. I think the best crowds to play for are attentive and appreciative. If they happen to be really animated too, that's just icing on the cake.

Bottled Spirits

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Camels!" is propulsive, but "Past Your Bedtime" is penetrative. It sings. And it's disregarded and derided because it sings about the parts of our pride that don't translate to the brochures. What the CG game was all about, and what so many find so hard to swallow, was that a lot of our school spirit is derived from having an unreasonably good time. From being loud, making a mess, and loving every minute of it. Where else but Conn Coll can we re-

ally do it like this?

Privately, each of us knows who we are. We are intelligent, we work hard, we toil in our classes, we struggle for our studies, we accept diverse viewpoints and welcome strangers from 84 different countries and learn to put the liberal arts into practice. But try translating all of that into public displays, into communal appreciation, and you're left with hollow recitations of tired clichés, under-stimulated non-participation, eyes glazed. The deep, substantial things about Conn that fill us with pride are too subtle and nu-

anced to shout at a Pep Rally. If you want displays, then we need chants, we need fight songs. We need rivals.

By the same token, the unifying values inscribed in our studentship and illuminated by our Viewbook cannot be drilled or rehearsed. "Sense of community" isn't some programmed algorithm you can just call to action from 11:50-1:10 on Friday morning and wait for people to show up at Blaustein. It has to be decocted, considered and believed in by each of us. It's organic, unaffected, and defined differently by each and every student

here. The CG game was my brand of madness, if only because it was so outlandishly mad. But for each one of us there in the stands, there was a fellow Camel studying deep in Shain, building in Cummings, playing in the Barn, reveling in the Windham Basement, laying out on the Green. Flung throughout, we're still bound together, even if you can't always see it. Public or private, quiet or caustic, our pride is ours alone to embrace, however it may manifest itself.

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ARTS&ENTERTAINMENT

November 12, 2008 | A + E Editor: Carolyn Sebasky

Dev's On Bank Street Offers An Economical And Delicious Alternative To Harris



DEVIN COHEN '12

contributing writer

Like many other students at Connecticut College, quality food is high on my priority list—but a wallet full of greenbacks is a figment of my imagination. The perpetual search for affordable quality food was taking its toll on my palate, and fast food became a first rather than a last resort. Luckily, before I suffered severe loss of taste, my prayers were answered in the form of Dev's on Bank Street and its spectacular Mediterranean fusion cuisine.

Upon arrival at Dev's, the cozy and comfortable ambiance of the restaurant is immediate and inviting. With each table candle-lit and all other lights dimmed to a level resembling a European tavern, the intimate atmosphere of Dev's is second only to the friendliness of the staff. Every waiter and waitress is personable and pleasant, along with the owner Candace Devendittis and the managers Paul and Bunny—each of whom frequently love to make conversation and mingle with customers.

The menu at Dev's is expansive, offering a wide array of dishes from various culinary regions. A must-try appetizer is the Sweet Corn and Chorizo Clam Chowder, containing a myriad of clams and having just the right viscosity of a good chowder:

not to thin. The steamed and sautéed Asian Pot Stickers with soy dipping sauce is another wise choice for a starter, and the Lobster Sandwich appetizer with copious amounts of real lobster on Focaccia bread is easily enough to fill up on. For any high rollers out there, try the New York Strip Americana. Ancho-rubbed and served with chipotle cheddar mashed potatoes, this dish made me reminisce about all the great southwestern dishes I used to eat at home in California.

Although menu dishes may be pricey for us college students, it is fortunate that Dev's has an extensive Tapas menu. Tapas at Dev's are a way to sample many of the restaurant's excellent dishes in the form of affordable appetizers, ranging from \$3-12. Many appetizers and entrees from Dev's main menu can also be sampled from the tapas menu, which allows for tastes of entrees for a third of the price.

For a terrific meal that's affordable, the tapas menu is the wise path to take. The Mongolian Pork Bar-B-Que ribs were some of the most tender pieces of pork I have ever tasted: so tender in fact, that in addition to the meat falling effortlessly off the bone, the bones themselves were falling apart. The lamb chop fondue was

another favorite of mine: three grilled lamb chops, cooked to order, with the gorgonzola fondue dipping sauce. The quality of the New Zealand Lamb was incredible, when cooked medium rare and served with a splash of fondue, this unusual combination of flavor produces a rich and long-lasting taste. Another sterling example of Dev's creativity is the Si Si Pollo, consisting of crispy chicken and prosciutto served with a lemon citrus sauce. The citrus sauce provides a nice counterbalance to the saltiness of the crispy meat, making this uncommon grouping of ingredients into a dish that'll have you begging for more.

To conclude a meal at Dev's, nothing delivers like the Toasted Goat Cheese Tapa. The toasted goat cheese is placed on crackers and then covered with almonds and honey, creating a dish with interesting texture but a warm and simple flavor. For me, Dev's always hits the spot, and never hits my wallet hard. I hope everyone can soon try one of the best meals in New London.



Nick And Norah's Infinite Playlist Does Not Fail To Please: The Most Realistic Love Story in Recent Film

RACINE OXTOBY '11

staff writer

The movie *Nick And Norah's Infinite Playlist*, which opened back in October, might just be one of the more realistic portrayals of modern teen romance seen in contemporary movies. Boasting utterly fabulous music, down-to-earth dialogue, a naturally beautiful and exciting setting and two lovable leads, the movie is all about finding love through chance.

The movie is a hipster love letter to New York City at night, telling the story of two high school kids and their developing relationship during a single night's adventure. They both are looking for a concert of the fictional band Where's Fluffy?, which is notorious for their reclusive nature, early-morning concerts, and notorious fake-outs. They meet because Norah goes to school with (and loathes) Nick's flirty, manipulative ex-girlfriend, Tris, who Nick is still heartbroken over after she broke up with him on his "b-day." Nick still makes brilliant mix CDs for Tris, who promptly throws them out. Norah fishes them out. Even though Norah has never met Nick, she feels as though she loves him just judging from his playlists.

The two encounter each other at a concert for Nick's queercore band The Jerk-Offs (the band goes through a lengthy list of names that only get raunchier as the movie continues –

my personal favorite has to be Fistful of Assholes). Tris has shown up to the show with her new boy toy so she can enjoy torturing poor Nick, while Norah is joined by her best friend Caroline (hilariously played by scene-stealer Ari Graynor), who dives deep



into drunkenness early into the movie and never seems to leave. Put into the embarrassing situation of not having a guy to be with, Norah asks Nick if she can be her boyfriend for five minutes to get Tris off her back and plants a wet one on Nick's befuddled mouth. From there, the quests to find Where's Fluffy?, get Caroline home (and then, when she escapes, believing that Nick's bandmates have kidnapped her, find her), and push annoying ex-flames out of the picture proceed.

The movie created a bit of controversy for fans of the book when it was announced that Michael Cera would be playing the character of Nick. Nick is supposed to be portrayed as a punk rocker type, whereas in the movie he's loveable, awkward-as-always Michael Cera. However, I think it works well. The chemistry between Michael Cera and Kat Dennings is earnest and swooning, never too sweet or clichéd. Both of them are hot off the Judd Apatow train, which has a reputation of mixing raunchy comedy with sincere romance and reality.

Alexis Dziena (who somewhat memorably bared everything to Bill Murray in *Broken Flowers*) is a delectable ice queen with some serious attachment issues. Nick's two bandmates – both gay but never in a stereotypical or condescending way – genuinely care about finding Nick a new girl and see real potential in the lovely yet tomboyish Norah. The character of Lethario, a gay companion of the band, is hilariously suave and has what must be the funniest comeback ever in an argument in the climax of the film.

The movie is especially fun to watch for the random cameos. Current SNL members Andy Samberg and Seth Meyers have incredibly funny cameos, John Cho (*Harold And Kumar Go To White Castle*) plays a hype man at a club, while psych-folk

SEE NICK & NORAH

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Snow Patrol Broadens Image With *A Hundred Million Suns*

ELIZABETH BOYLE '10

staff writer

Releasing their newest album since 2006, Snow Patrol finally returns, after overcoming a couple years of setbacks with *A Hundred Million Suns*. The band has significantly broadened their sound since hit album, *Eyes Open*, with a more rock, upbeat vibe paralleling the sounds of Coldplay's *Viva la Vida* and harmonies similar to those of Sufjan Stevens. Formed in Dundee, Scotland and Banjor, Northern Ireland, Snow Patrol, formerly known as "Shrug", strictly played gigs at the University of Dundee, in which members Gary Lightbody and Mark McClelland attended. Originally established as an indie band, Snow Patrol has recently changed their sound to that of alternative rock, with the release of "Chasing Cars" and "Run." The band's climatic

Music Review



point of success came in 2006, when their release of *Eyes Open* became UK's best-selling album of the year. The album hit platinum in the United States, selling over one million copies and held a spot within the top fourth of the Billboard 200 list for fifteen weeks. Even at the peak of their careers, Snow Patrol's path to success still wasn't easy. After postponing their *Eyes Open* Tour within the US, they also experienced a number of other setbacks along the way, from polyps being found on vocalist, Gary Lightbody's vocal cords, to keyboardist, Tom Simpson, drug-related arrest after the band performed at Life Earth in 2007. However the band has learned from their mistakes and have finally returned, excited to share their diversified sounds and experiences with the world.

A Hundred Million Suns offers the listener a look within the emotional state of vocalist, Gary Lightbody, as he experiences and overcomes the terrifying realities of love within the world. Album-opener, "If There's A Rocket Tie Me To It" encompasses the distinct sound, which has established the band's successful career. Here Lightbody laments about a recent break-up: everything collapsing around him, and in need of love to make him stable again. "Crack The Shutters", the hidden gem of the album, is a simple love song, indulging and becoming lost in the image and being of the person you love. "Take Back The City" demonstrates the band's broadened musical talent with the strong rock vibe present throughout the entire song. "I love this city tonight, I love this city always"; this song expresses an appreciation for the city to which you belong. In the band's case, Lightbody relates it to Berlin, where he was brought up and the love/hate relationship he had with it. "Please Take These Photos From My Hands" further demonstrates the band's alternative rock feel, with the strong, opening guitar chord progression. This song differs from the overlying theme of the realities of

SEE SNOW PATROL

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All photos on this page are courtesy of the Web

David Dorfman Dance's *Disavowal*

SOPHIE MAGUIRE '10

staff writer

As students, their families, faculty, and staff poured into Palmer Auditorium, they were lead on a path through backstage allowing them to discover the underbelly of Connecticut College's theater. David Dorfman's dancers were casually warming up throughout the audience; listening to an iPod, working on a computer, or touching up makeup. If there is one thing that Dorfman pushes in his new work, *Disavowal*, it is the destruction of the wall separating the audience from the performer. Throughout the show, dancers spoke directly to the audience, often times stepping off the stage, crawling over audience members' laps.

The concept of "disavowal" appeared many times throughout the show within the context of race. The use of the three African American dancers seemed purposeful and

thought out; there were monologues about isolation and entrapment, and conversations about apologies.

The literal and often times blunt use of text was juxtaposed to tremendously visceral dance phrases, exposing the dancers' extraordinary ability. The momentum that was built throughout the explosive dance sections seemed to be cut short by the performance theatre interludes, which served to clarify the narrative of the piece.

Similar to his presence throughout his previous work, underground, Dorfman appeared quite consistently throughout *Disavowal*. Dorfman almost immediately established himself as "Big Papa." As the piece continued, Dorfman frequently roamed the audience speaking in a God-like manner to those on stage; telling them how to move, when to stop moving, and how to act toward each other.

The production of the show was nothing but professional. The larger-than-life silhouettes of each dancer,

projected onto huge drapes of white fabric, highlighted the variety of body types and the individuality of

"The established narrative oscillated between the extremely abstract and the extremely literal, with little middle ground, disrupting the momentum of the work. The piece investigated pertinent and intriguing subject matter, but often left the audience wondering what the main thesis was."

each performer. The melting of these silhouettes into buckets toward the end of the piece added a visually satisfying affect but was unclear in its intention within the work. The later use of the white drapes,

forming a sanctuary coupled with celestial lighting, created a beautiful image that could have lasted longer.

Disavowal proved to be a full-scale production exposing the tremendous talent of Connecticut College's dancers in residence. The established narrative oscillated between the extremely abstract and the extremely literal with little middle ground, which somewhat disrupted the momentum of the work. The piece investigated pertinent and intriguing subject matter, but often left the audience wondering what the main thesis actually was.

The actual movement phrases of *Disavowal* explained the relationship between abandonment and control, as communicated through the dancers' bodies. The intelligent choreography was only further informed by the agility and grace of each dancer. The individuality of the dancers' interpretations of the movement also stood out as a rewarding and informative directorial choice.

Intoxicasian

KATHERINE SARTIANO '12

staff writer

On Friday November 7, IntoxicaSIAN, a celebration of Asian culture took place. The event, which was hosted by Connecticut College Asian/Asian American Student Association (CCASA), not only informed students and community members about Asian culture, but also, a portion of the show's ticket sales went to Friends of Shelter Associates, a charitable organization.

The event, directed by Vikram Raju '10 and produced by CCASA co-chairs Zhong Huang '10 and Geoffrey Wong '10, featured many student performances that highlighted different aspects of Asian culture, such as a Filipino folk dance, Bollywood dance, traditional Chinese Lion Dance, Chinese hip-hop dance, Chinese yo-yo demonstration, a traditional Vietnamese fan dance, and a fashion show that exhibited both traditional and modern Asian outfits.

The evening started with food from the Jasmine Thai Restaurant in New London. After dinner was served, Professor Sunil Bhatia presented on behalf of Friends of Shelter Associ-

ates (FSA), a charity that raises funds for the building and distribution of sanitary systems with the goal of educating people and raising awareness about the violations of rights that occurs in slums throughout India.

The presentation described how children and families throughout India lack proper sanitation facilities, leading to disease, sexual assault when women and children have to find proper facilities, and violations of human dignity and health.

After the presentation, the performances began, the first, a Filipino folk dance choreographed by Zoëy Gonzales '11, which imitated the movements of birds walking through grass. The second performance was "Dailamo," a Bollywood-style dance which depicted men and women in a battle for love, and was choreographed by Sofia Iqbal '09 and Wayne Ong '11. The dance was followed by one of the most impressive events of the night, the "Lion Dance," which was choreographed and performed by freshman Aaron Chau. The Lion Dance is a Chinese tradition often performed at ceremonies, banquets, and weddings, and it is believed to summon good spirits and banish evil.

Other performances included a Chi-



Photos courtesy of Chibritelle Kaiminsky

nese hip-hop dance that incorporated elements of martial arts, a Chinese yo-yo demonstration by Jeremy Wong, a magic performance in which director Vikram Raju swallowed a sword, and a Vietnamese fan dance choreographed by Nhung Le '12. The final dance, an Indian Bhangara dance, is an Indian folk dance which celebrates the coming of spring and was choreo-

graphed by Vikram Raju.

The event was very successful, with all of the seats in the 1962 Room filled, and performances that captivated the audience for the duration of the show. Those who attended the show experienced and learned about various aspects of Asian culture while enjoying good food and seeing exciting performances.

Daniel Martin Moore's *Stray Age*: Sub Pop Goes Folk

ROHAN OTT '12

contributing writer

A newcomer to the independent music scene, Daniel Martin Moore released his debut album, *Stray Age*, last month. He is signed to Sub Pop Records, whose other artists include The Postal Service, Iron & Wine, The Shins, and Fruit Bats. Joe Chiccarelli (The Shins, U2, The White Stripes) co-produced the album and handled the recording and mixing. *Stray Age* has already earned Moore the coveted "artist to watch" status from NPR's "World Café."

Moore is from Cold Spring, Kentucky, a small town in northern Kentucky. He is the first artist to be signed to Sub Pop Records from an unsolicited demo. He mailed his four-song demo to Sub Pop on a whim. Unsolicited demos are rarely listened to, but, for some reason, Sub Pop picked Moore's. Not focused on a future in music, he had been a bit of an itinerant for some time: studying photography in college, joining the Peace Corps, working in Cameroon, and living in Minnesota. They found him working

at a bed and breakfast in Costa Rica.

Sub Pop would have listeners believe that Moore comes from a place completely devoid of any music besides The Billboard "Hot 100," but Cold Spring is a mere twenty minutes from Cincinnati. While it may not be New York City, Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky do have

"His music has a sort of Nick Drake or Elliott Smith sound to it, though definitely more upbeat."

a thriving music scene with some quality concert venues and many independently run record stores.

Moore may have been exposed to the independent music scene, but that is not to say he had experience as a musician. Before being signed to Sub Pop, Moore's only live performance had been at a sports bar in Kentucky. Though, after listening to his music, you have to wonder if he received much positive crowd support at a sports bar. Like too many other bands, iTunes has simplified *Stray Age* to "alternative,"

but "folk" would probably be a more accurate description of the genre.

His music has a sort of Nick Drake or Elliott Smith sound to it, though definitely more upbeat. The elegantly simple instrumentals that back up Moore's beautiful voice create a relaxing sound. Some familiar names helped create this sound: Petra Haden (Bill Frisell, Beck) lent her violin skills to three songs, and Justin Meldal-Johnsen (Beck, Tori Amos) played upright bass.

The uncomplicated lyrics deliver mostly light-hearted messages that any listener can understand. Like any other (or probably every other) singer/songwriter he seems to have been inspired to write a few songs about a past relationship. His thoughtful lyrics give listeners a welcome break from the angst that has become so common. Also, nature is an ever-present theme in Moore's lyrics reminding one of his "bluegrass state" background. Though it was recorded in Los Angeles, the combination of soft sounds and lyrics make the album a product of Moore's natural hometown setting and a great new folk album.

Nick & Norah

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singer Devendra Banhart (whose song "Lover" is cited by both Nick and Norah as being "my song") has a double-take-inducing cameo in an Asian market. The screenwriter of the movie, Lorene Scafaria, and two authors of the book of which the movie is based, David Levithan and Rachel Cohn, all have cameos as well.

Despite its chick-flick appearance, *Nick And Norah's Infinite Playlist* can easily be enjoyed by all. The soundtrack is one of the best released this year, featuring such bands as the National, Vampire Weekend, and Modest Mouse, and many others. The humor tends to tread on the edge of naughty: so children, be warned. However, the instances of barf and orgasms featured in the movie have nothing going up against a single piece of gum and its many adventures throughout the movie. I highly recommend this movie; it is quite possibly the *American Graffiti* of our generation.

Player Of The Week Brian Murtagh

ELLEN CAVANAUGH '10

staff writer

With the help of Camel teammates, senior captain Brian Murtagh of Rowley, Massachusetts, led the Men's Cross Country team to one of its most successful seasons in its history. The Camels finished in fifth place at the NESCAC Championship Race on November 1.

Although Murtagh's running career has been plagued by injury, he has remained resilient, determined, and focused. In fall 2006, he received All-NESCAC and All-New England honors. His debut outdoor track season was nothing short of superb, taking first place in both the NESCAC and New England Division III steeplechase.

His sophomore year, he finished second in the NESCAC Cross Country Champion meet. He also finished thirteenth at the New England Division III Cross Country Championship meet. That winter in indoor track, he won the New England Division III Championship 3,000 Meter Race with a time of 8:39.

Murtagh had a difficult junior year due to injury, but bounced back this year with outstanding performances. He placed sixth in the NESCAC Championship with a time of 26:05 and received first team All-Conference honors.

Murtagh has made several appearances on Connecticut College's Top All-Time Top 10 Performance List. He ranks in ninth place for the 1500m with a time of 4:07, third for the 5000m with a time of 15:08:85, and second in the 3000m with a time of 8:35:23.

Murtagh has been a great contributor to Connecticut College's running programs.

VOICE: When did you start running/who influenced your decision to run competitively?

MURTAGH: I wasn't playing a spring sport in high school, so I ran track spring of

my sophomore year.

VOICE: Did you play other sports in high school/why did you stop?

MURTAGH: I played soccer my freshman year, and hockey my freshman and sophomore years. Summer before my sophomore year in high school I broke my leg, so I didn't play soccer. When fall junior year came around, I hadn't played since my freshman year, so went out for cross-country since I had just finished my first season of track. I wouldn't have gotten much ice time junior year in hockey, so I decided to go full time running.

VOICE: Do you like cross country or track better?

MURTAGH: Cross country has a better team aspect, but I do like the shorter races – 8k/5mile races in cross country can be taxing.

VOICE: What's your favorite race?

MURTAGH: 3000m indoors.

VOICE: What was your favorite race of all time?

MURTAGH: The 2006 NESCAC Cross Country Race at Harkness Park.

VOICE: What was your least favorite race of all time?

MURTAGH: The spring 2008 NESCAC 5k at Hamilton. I cramped up pretty badly in the last mile.

VOICE: What was the longest run you've ever been on?

MURTAGH: 18 miles.

VOICE: Where is your favorite place to run at Conn?

MURTAGH: My favorite place at Conn is Bluff Point in Groton. I go there almost every Sunday for long runs.

VOICE: What's your favorite brand of running shoe?

MURTAGH: Right now, Saucony.

VOICE: How do you prepare for



Photo courtesy of the Web

meets?

MURTAGH: I try not to get too excited. I take a nap and don't do anything out of the norm.

VOICE: Do you have any superstitions?

MURTAGH: Not really, no.

VOICE: What's your favorite sports movie?

MURTAGH: Just watched rocky, so that's in my head right now.

VOICE: What's on your pump-up play list?

MURTAGH: (laughs) I lost my iPod last spring skiing up in Vermont.

VOICE: What's your favorite pre-meet meal?

MURTAGH: Anything that won't upset my stomach: bananas, bowl of cereal, or PB&J.

VOICE: How has injury affected your running career?

MURTAGH: Well, I've had a lot of injuries. They definitely changed the way I train. I do a lot more cross training (bike and pool workouts) now than I did before. Also, I try not to slack off on stretching and core.

VOICE: What are your post-grad plans?

MURTAGH: To find a job, hopefully...

Soccer Smarts

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2008 season, including game-winners in the first two matches.

Coach Winnie Edmed stressed the importance of Katz to their squad. "We are so lucky to have a player in our program like Sharon," Edmed said. "She works hard every day, has a great attitude, her teammates love her and she is extremely talented. My only complaint is that we only have her for one more season."

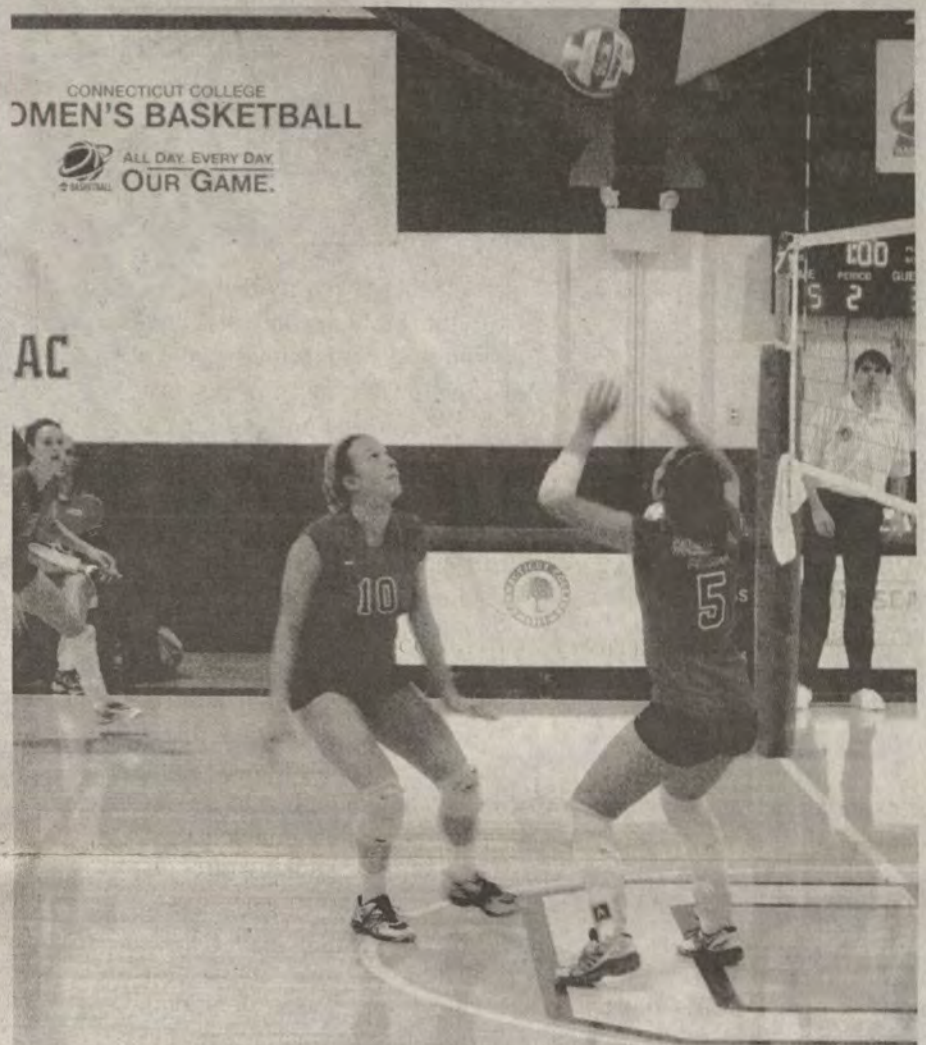
Off the field, Katz is majoring in economics with a minor in mathematics. She has been awarded the Macroeconomic Award, the Psychology 101 Award and the Sophomore Math Award.

Lenzi is a force in both the academic and athletic realm. Athletically, he was the defensive anchor for a Connecticut College Men's Soccer Team defense that posted three shutouts. The Camels finished 3-5-1 in the NESCAC, posting the highest point total in Connecticut College history.

Men's Soccer Team head coach Bill Lessig was most impressed with Lenzi's resolve. "Mickey is a team leader for us. Despite his high GPA in English," Lessig said, "He has never learned how to spell the word lose."

Academically, Lenzi is an English major. He is also pursuing a minor in Government. He has volunteered as a tutor at the Benny Dover Jr. High School in New London and at Connecticut College's Children's Center.

Volleyball



Marissa DeMais (5) sets the ball to Meg Christman (10) who goes for the kill. The Connecticut College Women's Volleyball team will depend heavily on these two players as it graduates a strong senior class. Photo courtesy of Brooke Smith.

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whole this class has been one of the strongest the program has ever had. Caitlin Tomaska, three-time All-NESCAC performer totaled 1,364 kills and 1,313 digs in her career as a Camel, setting the team record. Jenna Tjossem and Emma Matthieson supported Tomaska as captains of the team this season.

Graduating these seniors will indeed change the dynamic of the Women's Volleyball Program, but the future looks hopeful. There are five returning starters next season including juniors Lauren Wise, who leads the team in digs and aces, and Meg Christman, who leaves the team with 73 blocks. Sophomore Marissa DeMais, the starting setter, will also be returning in the fall to continue her important role

"Graduating these seniors will indeed change the dynamic of the Women's Volleyball Program, but the future looks hopeful."

on the team. There are also two freshman starters returning, Amy Newman and Ally Terlizzi, who were both huge contributors on the court this season.

Next fall, the Camels will be coming out with a fire beneath them hoping to surpass their Quarter Final placement, with the finals in mind. They without a doubt have the ability to do this, as long as the team as a whole shows up ready to play.

Men's Crew

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looking better in no time.

Without a Barack Obama in sight, the next most obvious place to look for how to change the men's current negative trend is to turn to their Camel counterparts. The women's team has had great success recently.

"I think their problems might just be cyclical. I guess our team was really small a few years ago, and look at it now," says Jess Truelove '11 of the Women's Crew team. "[When the team was smaller] we changed coaches, and since then we have had a lot

of success. We all love her, and she does a really good job at recruiting. She tells us at the start of every season to tell every tall freshman we see to join the crew team. It seems like it works!"

So maybe that's it. Maybe the guys are just going through a down year. Add a new head or assistant coach who can bring some enthusiasm and energy to the squad, and times will be looking brighter before we know it. Current head coach Ric Ricci is in the middle of his 29th season at the helm, but the Camels have had three different assistant coaches over the past three seasons. If Conn can find an assistant

coach that the guys can really connect with and that will stick around for an

"And so what it comes down to is this: Men's Crew, like America, needs change. They are going through difficult times at the moment, but with some positive change, things could be looking better in no time."

extended period of time, the size of the team should grow quickly.

In the mean time, guys on campus

who rowed crew in high school or who have always been interested in rowing should definitely look into joining the squad. The team could really use a few extra members, and as was proven by the recent presidential election, positive change cannot happen without widespread participation.

If you have any questions about rowing or are interested in joining the team, email Dan Stewart at dstewart@conncoll.edu.

November 12, 2008 | Sports Editor: Ben Eagle

Soccer Smarts

Two Camels named to ESPN The Magazine's Academic All-America District Team



Photos Courtesy of John Narewski

BEN EAGLE '09

editor-in-chief

On Wednesday, Juniors Sharon Katz and Mickey Lenzi were named the ESPN The Magazine District One All-Academic Teams. Katz, an offensive force for the Connecticut College Women's Soccer team was named to

the District One Women's Soccer All-Academic Third Team. Lezni, the defensive stopper for the Connecticut College Men's Soccer Team was named to the District One Men's Soccer All-Academic Second Team.

The Academic All-American Teams were selected by CoSIDA (College Sports Information Directors of America). The group was founded in 1957, but has only been giving out

Academic All-American Team honors for the past six years. In 2004, they partnered with ESPN The Magazine. For consideration for the Academic All-American Team, applicants must have participated in at least 50 percent of the team's games, and be a starter or reserve with a minimum 3.30 GPA.

On the field, Katz has been a vital part of the Connecticut College Women's Soccer Team since the day

she stepped on the field. She was the recipient of the 2006 Rookie of the Year, after notching four scores. During her sophomore year she continued to develop, garnering NESCAC Player of the Week honors in October 2007. Katz tallied four goals in the

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Man Overboard

One writer explores what President-elect Barack Obama and the Men's Crew Team have in common



Photo courtesy of the Web

MIKE FLINT '11

staff writer

If you go onto the Connecticut College web site and look the Men's and Women's Rowing page, you would be hard-pressed to find an article about the Men's Crew team. In fact, the most recent article that mentions them is from last April, and their team roster hasn't been updated since last March. But this makes sense, considering the current team actually only consists of four members (three rowers and one coxswain) and hasn't raced at all this fall.

But what happened? It hasn't always been like this; it seems to be a recent trend. How did a team that started the season with eight returning members and six incoming freshman go into Winter Training with just four members? With the women's team a

thousand strong and growing by the minute, why is the men's team having problems keeping guys around?

"It's not only a Conn thing," says Ryan Love '11, a former Camel rower who opted out recently. "It's a trend in Division III Men's Rowing all around. It might be a little more drastic here, but other small schools are having the same problem."

That being said, Conn needs to figure out a way to increase the size of the team. Even with two teammates coming back next semester from abroad, the Camels will barely have enough people to fill one boat.

And so what it comes down to is this: Men's Crew, like America, needs change. They are going through difficult times at the moment, but with some positive change, things could be

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Women's Volleyball Grounded

Lone Connecticut College playoff team falls in the first-round

EMILY WEBB '11

staff writer

Friday, November 7, 2008, Tufts University hosted the NESCAC Tournament for Women's Volleyball. The tournament teams included Amherst, Wesleyan, Bowdoin, Tufts, Bates, Williams, Middlebury, and none other than the Connecticut College Camels making them one of the few Fall sports teams at Conn to make the playoffs. As the sixth seed heading into the tournament, the Camels faced off against Amherst College during the 8 pm game. Earlier this season, on October 31, the Women's Volleyball team lost to Amherst 3-1, and headed into this game looking for a meaningful win.

In game one of the quarterfinal match, the Camels dominated starting the game off with a 5-0 lead over the Lord Jeffs. In the second and third games, Amherst dug deep and came back to win each of these 25-14 and 25-17 respectively. Connecticut College did not hang their heads at this point and worked to gain control in the fourth game with the hopes of winning to force a fifth and deciding match game. The team succeeded at

doing just that. According to Marissa DeMais '11 "Our offense was really clicking and we had the majority of our kills this game," which was reflected in the score 25-19. Unfortunately, in game five, Amherst regained control after gaining a four-point lead following a 5-5 start to the game. Amherst ended that game winning 15-11 using that four-point lead to buffer their way into the semi-finals.

Despite the loss, the Camels fought hard and had some outstanding play by members of the team. Freshman Amy Newman had 16 kills, 10 digs and 6 blocks in the game giving her the largest number of kills in this game for Connecticut College. Additionally, Caitlin Tomaska '09 pulled in 12 kills and 15 digs. Junior Lauren Wise also aided the team with 10 kills and 7 digs. Additionally, sophomore Marissa DeMais, setter, delivered 46 assists in the match. Regrettably, this outstanding play did not change the outcome of the game.

Sadly, the Camels Volleyball Team will be saying good-bye to their three seniors: Caitlin Tomaska, Jenna Tjossem, and Emma Matthieson. As a

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